

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated May 4, 2004, the Examiner made a final rejection of claims 1, 3-6, 8, 10-12, 16-17, 19-20 and 24-27. The Applicant has cancelled these claims through this Amendment, without prejudice, to place this application in condition for allowance.

The Examiner further objected to claims 9, 13-15, 18, and 21-23 as being dependent upon a rejection base claim, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicant has amended these claims to comply with this requirement of form and respectfully requests allowance of these claims.

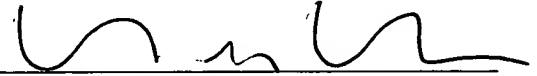
The Title was also amended to remain consistent with the claim amendments.

Claim 28 is pending and was allowed in the prior Office Action.

In conclusion, Applicant respectfully submits that the application and the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable consideration and the timely allowance of all pending claims. By the above amendments, Applicant submits that no new matter has been added to the application. If, for any reason, the application and claims are not in condition for allowance, or any additional information is required, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (650) 331-2040.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees (or credit any overpayment) associated with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 13-0019. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael A. Molano
Reg. No. 39,777

Dated: June 14, 2004

CUSTOMER NO. 26565
MAYER, BROWN, ROWE & MAW
P.O. Box 2828
Chicago, Illinois 60690-2828
(650) 331-2000